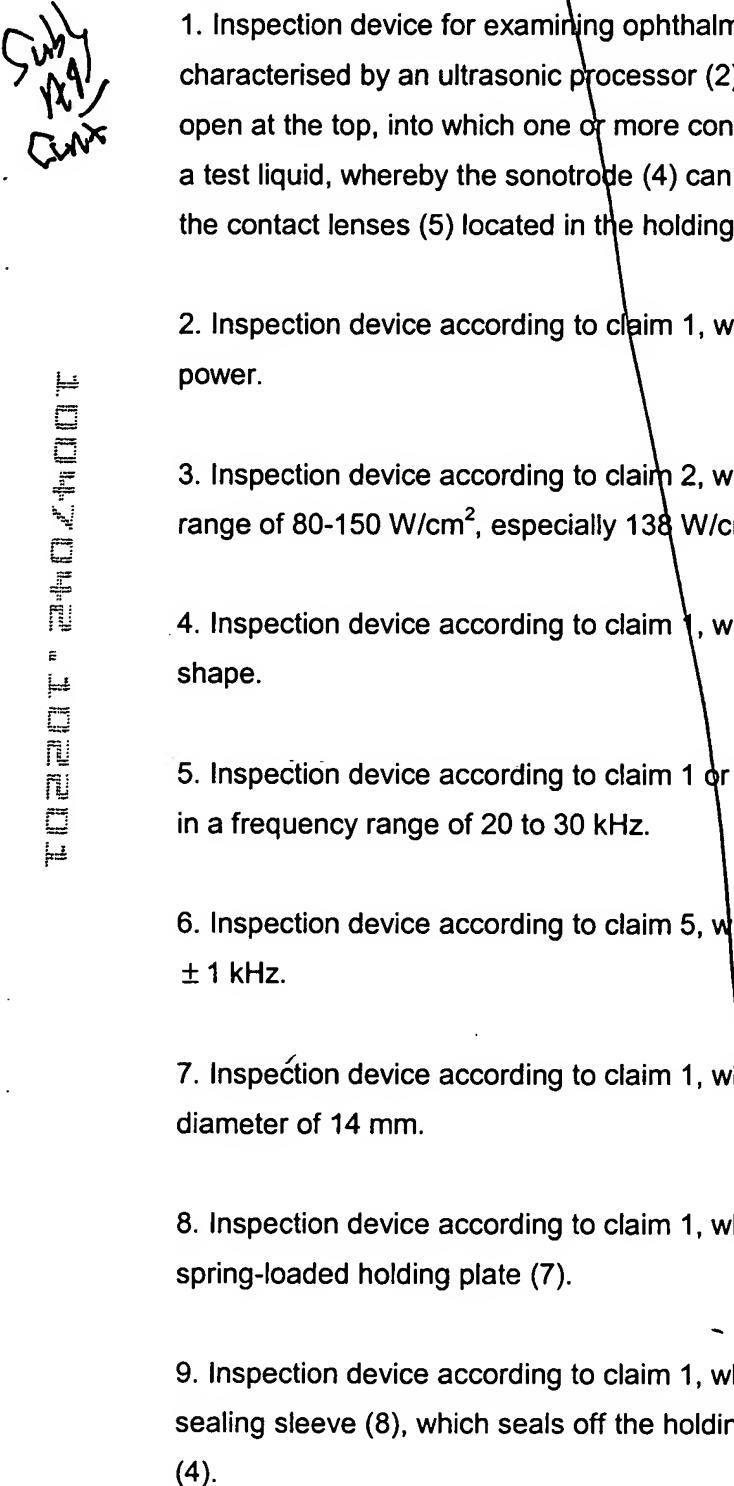


What we claim is:

1. Inspection device for examining ophthalmic lenses, especially contact lenses, characterised by an ultrasonic processor (2) with a sonotrode (4) and a holding container (6) open at the top, into which one or more contact lenses (5) may be placed, which is filled with a test liquid, whereby the sonotrode (4) can be immersed into the holding container (6), and the contact lenses (5) located in the holding container (6) are sonicated with ultrasound.
2. Inspection device according to claim 1, whereby the ultrasonic processes emits ultrasonic power.
3. Inspection device according to claim 2, whereby the ultrasonic power intensity lies in the range of 80-150 W/cm², especially 138 W/cm².
4. Inspection device according to claim 1, whereby the holding container (6) is of cylindrical shape.
5. Inspection device according to claim 1 or 2, whereby the ultrasonic processor (2) operates in a frequency range of 20 to 30 kHz.
6. Inspection device according to claim 5, whereby the frequency lies in the range of 24 kHz ± 1 kHz.
7. Inspection device according to claim 1, whereby the butt end of the sonotrode (4) has a diameter of 14 mm.
8. Inspection device according to claim 1, whereby the holding container (6) is mounted on a spring-loaded holding plate (7).
9. Inspection device according to claim 1, whereby the sonotrode (4) is surrounded by a sealing sleeve (8), which seals off the holding container during immersion of the sonotrode (4).

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10. Method of inspecting ophthalmic lenses, especially contact lenses, for defects, whereby the lenses are surrounded by a test liquid and exposed to an ultrasonic field.
11. Method according to claim 10, whereby the ultrasonic field is an ultrasonic power field.
12. Method according to claim 11, whereby the power intensity of the ultrasonic field lies in the range of 80-150 W/cm², especially 138 W/cm².
13. Method according to claim 10 or claim 12, whereby an ultrasonic processor (2) with a sonotrode (4) is used to produce the ultrasonic field.
14. Method according to claim 10, whereby a cylindrical holding container (6) is used to position the contact lenses in the test liquid.
15. Method according to claim 10, whereby the frequency range is from 20 to 30 kHz.
16. Method according to claim 15, whereby the frequency range is from 24 kHz \pm 1 kHz.
17. Method according to claim 13, whereby a sonotrode (4) with a butt end of 14 mm diameter is used.
18. Method according to claim 13, whereby the sonotrode (4) is surrounded by a sealing sleeve (8), which seals off the holding container (6) during immersion of the sonotrode (4).
19. Method according to claim 10, whereby soft contact lenses are inspected.

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A. T.*